

Universal Brotherhood of Love

This is a paper for boys. One could easily write a paper titled Universal Sisterhood of Love also, but this is specifically about brotherly love and relationships between boys and men. I am not talking about any perversion of pederasty or such but of the dynamics of learning from our elders, respecting those younger than us and regaining something of an ancient Brotherhood which is quite capable of affectionate, genuine loving brotherly relationships.

Some of the most emotional times of hurt in my life have been breakups of relationships, and not just of breakups with intimate lovers but on occasion the breakup of deep rooted friendships with other men. The reasons can be legion but the feeling you get especially when YOU breakup with a friend who is older than you can be very heavy on the heart. It is tricky because you gave so much respect to their seniority and by standing your ground you revoke that discipleship and enter deeper into your own being sans them.

They are upset because they lose your association and you are upset because you have told them you cannot remain in this relationship because of external factors. It is different to someone personally taking umbrage with a person - 'we hate the sin and not the sinner' of course! Nevertheless if you can no longer maintain then you might have to face the choice of separating from a friend who you love.